

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Shouji YAJIMA, Hiroyuki HIRAIWA, Yasuji ISHIDA

Application No.: U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP00/05412

Filed: March 28, 2001

Docket No.: 109067

For: PRODUCTION METHOD OF SYNTHETIC SILICA GLASS AND THERMAL
TREATMENT APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

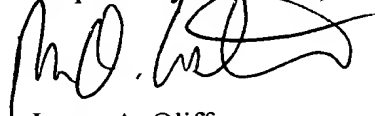
Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,



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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 109067		APPLICATION NO. New U.S. Patent Application	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Shouji YAJIMA, Hiroyuki HIRAIWA, Yasuji ISHIDA			
				FILING DATE March 28, 2001			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
		5,707,908	01/13/1998	KOMINE et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
		WO 00/41226 A1 (abstract only)	07/13/2000	WIPO			
		WO 00/58761 A1(abstract only)	10/05/2000	WIPO			
		WO 01/02311 A1 (abstract only)	01/11/2001	WIPO			
		JP 62-235223 A (w/abstract)	10/15/1987	Japan			
		JP 6-166527 A (w/abstract)	06/14/1994	Japan			
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		JP 8-104532 A (w/abstract)	04/23/1996	Japan			
		JP 10-279322 A (w/abstract)	10/20/1998	Japan			
		JP 11-209134 A (w/abstract)	08/03/1999	Japan			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							